

# THE LANCASTER NEWS

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LANCASTER, S. C., JULY 14, 1916.

\$1.50 A YEAR.

## BIGGEST AND BEST OF BRIDGES GONE

**Southern, Seaboard, Interurban  
and County Bridges Over  
Catawba in Mecklenburg  
County Swept Away by the  
Mighty Waters. Many Others  
Go.**

## MANY COTTON MILLS ARE UNDER WATER

**Damage to Concrete Dams and Power  
Stations is Immense.—Several Mills  
Along Catawba Under Water.—  
Wires Down and Communication  
Broken at Many Places.—Train Ser-  
vice Demolished.**

The Catawba rampant, with waters flooding cities and towns situated along its banks, submerging houses, cotton mills and manufacturing enterprises almost without number, smashing great railway and highway bridges spanning its tempestuous course, twisting great trees and doing incalculable damage, ranging in to the millions, such was the record of the most destructive flood that ever visited the Piedmont section of the Carolinas. As though the mighty stream sought to shake itself in one mighty protest against the almost superhuman efforts of man to con- scribe its course and limit its activities it gave an exhibition of its almost irresistible power which resulted in many mighty steel railway bridges going down; three, four and possibly five or six state and county highway bridges, including the new steel bridge at Mount Holly, and according to reports the elegant \$100,000 built-for-the-ages reinforced concrete structure at Sloan's Ferry, the partial submersion of dozens of cotton mills unfortunately located too close to the banks of the stream, such as the East and West Monbo Mills, near Statesville, Woodlawn and Mount Holly Mills at Mount Holly and various others, and of damage to roads, crops, houses, timber that cannot be estimated at this time.

One of those who had witnessed several fierce Ohio and Mississippi floods likened the Catawba to one of the tributaries of those streams during the flood tide of their irresistible away, when there was nothing that could withstand its fury. The damage to the immense concrete dams and power stations of the Southern Power Company on the Catawba could not be figured but it will range into the hundreds of thousands of dollars. No big dam was washed away but the power houses of every description were flooded, thus curtailing operations and of course entailing much injury to machinery and equipment. At Lookout Shoals, 12 miles north of Statesville, the water had washed over and carried away a great embankment fill on the Catawba side which, while it relieved part of the pressure on the dam proper, turned loose such a flood of water that the old West Monbo Mill below, with its 5,000 spindles was submerged and the East Monbo new mill directly across the river partially put under water, the warehouse was flooded and hundreds upon hundreds of bags and bales of cotton washed away.

Passing down the river, the Seaboard Air Line bridge at Mount Holly was the first to break, the middle pier being smashed which dropped down the two central spans. Later in the afternoon at 5:35 the Southern's steel main-line bridge across the Catawba near Belmont, on the direct route through to Atlanta, went down, the shock carrying a force of workmen engaged in seeking to relieve some of the driftwood pressure on the lower end of the bridge. This bridge was built about 12 years ago and was regarded as one of the best on the line.

The Interurban new all steel bridge at Mount Holly went out about 8:30 when all telephone connection with the river was lost. This break was almost inevitable when the Seaboard bridge fell, thus superimposing all the pressure on the already heavily burdened structure below. The reports as to the Southern bridge on the line to Rock Hill indicated that the structure was holding but the crest of the flood had not reached that point at that time.

On the South Fork of the Catawba, the damage was almost unbelievable. The mills, which hover close to the banks of these streams were flooded and the damage to reservoir dams, power stations and textile machinery

The Southern Railway's Charlotte-Atlanta steel bridge over the Catawba near Belmont was carried away by the flood at 5:35 Sunday afternoon. A dozen men are reported to have been lost, including Division Chief Engineer of Maintenance Joe Killian.

At Mount Holly, the Seaboard Air Line steel bridge, the Interurban steel bridge and the county highway steel bridge were smashed Sunday afternoon. Driftwood accumulated against the Seaboard, then against the Interurban and early Sunday night against the county bridge, all being torn away. These three bridges were comparatively new and represented an investment of more than \$125,000.

The \$100,000 reinforced concrete highway bridge at Sloan's ferry was covered and reported gone.

Dravo Power Co. dam and station on Broad river was washed away early near Gaffney, S. C.

The C. & N. W. steel bridge across Catawba near Rhodhiss reported washed away.

The dam at Ocoola lake, built seven years ago, by Hendersonville capital, burst early Sunday morning.

Kanuga lake dam owned by Geo. Stephens of Charlotte broke Sunday morning about 10:30 o'clock.

One man and two women drowned by the rising waters at Biltmore, just below Asheville.

Railroad service out of Asheville to North and South Carolina points is at a standstill.

A big dam at Lake Toxaway was carried away.

Hundreds of thousands of dollars worth of timber is reported carried down the Yadkin river Sunday.

Embankment fill at the Lookout dam broke at 5:30 Sunday afternoon, sweeping away the old West Monbo mill, the East side warehouse with 400 bales of cotton, the West Monbo Mill and its 5,000 spindles are submerged. East Monbo is half submerged.

A waterspout on Little River, near Taylorsville in Alexander county, swept away a flour mill and some of the tenant houses are submerged. Part of the Lileadon mill is submerged and the Alspaugh mill is covered with several feet of water.

The Southern Railway bridge at Catawba broke.

A highway bridge between Statesville and Newton broke during the day.

The Central highway bridge between Mooresville and Lincolnton was swept away.

The Southern Power Company reported all power houses at Lookout Shoals, Catawba, Ninety-Nine Islands and the steam plant at Mount Holly partially submerged. No power dams have yet been washed away.

The flood has eclipsed the record of more than 100 years.

At Laboratory, High Shoals, Long Shoals, Harden and elsewhere, the loss was estimated in to the hundreds of thousands.

The Dravo Power Company dam and power station on the Broad River near Gaffney was carried away, demonstrating that the Catawba was not alone in its demonstration of mighty power. At Ninety-Nine Islands some 15 to 20 miles below, the water was tumbling across the top of the dam of the Southern Power Company station but not doing any vast amount of damage when last heard from.

The power house had been submerged but this damage can be rectified. The Broad was far ahead of anything ever known before in the history of the stream.

Officials of the Southern Power Company did nothing but watch the rising waters. At Lookout the water was higher than ever before. Indeed there are no records in over 100 years that approach the present levels. The dam was constructed to withstand anything imaginable but such a flood as this was never considered. The fact that the great pile of reinforced concrete was able to stand was a splendid tribute to the work of the contractors and those that designed it.

A dramatic incident in connection with the breaking of the Seaboard trestle in the afternoon was the presence of at least a hundred or more spectators along the trestle just a few moments before the crash came, but some wiseacre gave warning of the close proximity of danger and nearly everybody left the bridge before the break came. With the exception of two boys, who were almost in the middle of the structure when it began to bend and snap. Their quickness alone saved them. With a dash they escaped to an adjoining span before the broken part of the structure gave away and were greeted with cheers by many of the bystanders.

## SIX LIVES CLAIMED BY WESTERN RIVERS

**YOUNG WOMEN RESCUED FROM  
TREES WITHOUT SERIOUS  
INJURIES.**

**WATERS ARE NOW RECEDING**

**Miles of Railway Tracks Washed  
Away.—Preparations Are Begun to  
Rebuild Bridges Wrecked By the  
Flood.**

Asheville.—Flooded waters of the French Broad and Swannanoa Rivers were rapidly receding but compilation of denite reports received here show a startling aggregate of damage and suffering in their fertile valleys. As nearly as could be estimated the net results of the flood Sunday were:

Six lives lost.

Sixty residences washed away.

Four hundred people homeless.

Twelve hundred without employment.

Twenty-five industrial plants partially destroyed.

Complete tie-up of railroad traffic with one exception.

Property loss \$10,000,000.

Workers in cotton mills and lumber plants in Buncombe, Henderson and Madison counties are being cared for here. Nearly \$10,000 was subscribed here for relief work among flood sufferers.

Asheville still was without light and electric power Monday night, the gas and electric plants having been flooded. Milk and ice were scarce.

Four Drowned at Biltmore.

On the famous Vanderbilt estate near here and in the village of Biltmore, laid out by the late George W. Vanderbilt, the passing of the flood showed heavy damage. Many houses in Biltmore were swept away and it was here that four lives were lost, while two women tied themselves to a tree and were rescued next day.

Large quantities of hay were washed out at the Vanderbilt estate, 100 acres of corn is reported covered with silt and many of the supplies for the extensive farm operations there will have to be replaced.

Rebuild Bridges at Once.

Charlotte.—Vice President E. Thomason of the Piedmont & Northern Railway stated that the Interurban was in fine shape except for the broken bridge at Mount Holly and that steps would be taken at once to replace this. He added that he was already wiring for material and would begin reconstruction at the very earliest possible moment.

An engineer of the Seaboard Air Line was at Mount Holly to look over the situation there with a view to rebuilding that bridge.

General Manager Thomason stated that he had gotten word through from the South Carolina division and that everything was in good shape, although the water in the Saluda river was the highest on record.

Tracks Washed Away.

Statesville, N. C.—The waters of the Catawba river have receded as rapidly as they rose and are running only about normal. Little additional information of damage done by the flooded stream has been received because of the destruction of telephone and telegraph wires and the inability to cross the larger streams along which bridges have been destroyed. The train which left Winston-Salem for Wilkesboro and had since been unheard from is marooned at Wilkesboro. The crew of the train, including the mail clerks, made their way from Wilkesboro to Taylorsville, traveling much of the 20 miles by foot and came to Statesville on train en route to Winston-Salem. The trainmen stated that the track was probably destroyed for miles between Wilkesboro and Winston-Salem and will probably require months of repair work before their train can make its return trip. The big tannery of C. C. Smoot and Son at Wilkesboro was swept away.

East Tennessee Flooded.

Knoxville, Tenn.—Upper East Tennessee felt its first effects of the Carolina storm when the Blue Ridge Mountains let loose floods of water that put streams and rivers on the rampage as they had not been in 30 years. Elizabethton and several other towns were threatened with serious damage, while various railroads have suffered severe losses from washout and slides that have completely blocked traffic. All trains into Bristol on the Radford division of the Norfolk & Western railroad were annulled, trains being unable to pass Radford.

## SIX WHITE MEN ARE SAVED BY NEGROES

**THIRTEEN ARE KNOWN MISSING  
AS RESULT AT BELMONT  
BRIDGE.**

**1,000,000 SPINDLES ARE IDLE**

**Flood Damage Grows Greater, Estimated at \$20,000,000.—Power Plants  
Are Flooded and Thousands of Mill  
Workers Are Idle.**

Charlotte.—Resident Engineer Joseph Killian, Section Foreman R. C. Thompson of Belmont, and H. C. Gurey and George C. Kale of Charlotte, members of the derrick crew, were rescued from the turgid waters of the Catawba by Foss Ross and P. H. Stowe, negro boatmen, at a point two miles below the wreck of the Southern Railway bridge, thus accounting for four of the reported 18 who were swept away at 5:30 o'clock Sunday afternoon when a derrick crew, attempting savers of the railway bridge at Catawba, 11 miles from the city, passed downstream with a collapse of the middle span of the main line structure.

Thirteen Unaccounted For.

According to the official statement of Claim Agent P. L. Ward, the list of 13 Southern employees who are as yet unaccounted for, is as follows:

H. P. Griffith, supervisor, Charlotte, married, wife and five children.

W. L. Fortune, section foreman, Kings Mountain, married, two or three children.

C. S. Barbee, section foreman, Charlotte, married, wife and several children.

C. W. Klutz, derrick employee, Charlotte, 34 or 35 years old; married, four children; six months to eight years.

J. N. Gordan, car inspector, Charlotte, not married, about 35 years old, father very old and entirely gave way at the scene of accident.

Andrew Scott, colored laborer, Rock Hill, S. C., age unknown, probably married, of Charlotte.

Tom Davis, colored laborer, Juneau, N. C., age 49, married, lives about one-half mile from Juneau, five or six children oldest being about 15 years. This man has been in the service for many years.

Daniel Heath, colored laborer, age 23 years, residence 13 miles from Juneau, on Bob Cathey farm. Wife, Bessie, and one child, a baby.

Sloan Adams, colored laborer, 20 years old, married, lives in section house, Charlotte.

Will Adams, colored laborer, brother of Sloan, married, but does not live with his wife. Boards with his sister, Carrie Ferguson, on First street.

Tom Ashwood, colored laborer, probably 25 years old, married. Wife lives at McFee, S. C.

Evans Brown, 21, colored laborer, single, Rodman, S. C. Mother probably lives at Rodman.

Julius White, colored laborer, age 25. Wife living in Brooklyn, Charlotte.

1,000,000 Spindles Affected.

Some conception of the magnitude of the devastating consequences of the great flood may be gleaned from the statement that the Southern Power Company annulled service to all secondary power consumers which cut off the juice from more than 1,000,000 spindles located in this general territory. All of these mills have their steam plants and they will be able to resume operations without delay if they so elect. Of course those in the actual flooded area will not be able to do anything for weeks and maybe months.

10,000 GERMANS TAKEN  
PRISONERS IN SOMME BATTLE

London.—The British have captured additional German prisoners in the Somme region and brought their total since July 1 up to 189 officers and 10,779 men of other ranks. In addition 17 heavy and 133 lighter guns have fallen into British hands during their period.

Many attacks by the Austrians against the Italians in the upper Poena Valley proved unavailing in bending back the line of the Italians, who, in a counter-attack in which there was hand-to-hand fighting, repulsed the Austrians over the entire front. Failure likewise followed an attempt of the Austrians to surround the Italians in the Trovo Valley.

Intermittent bombardments and local fights between infantry are taking place in the Caucasus region between the Turks and the Russians. No important changes have taken place in this theater.

## DEATH OF J. CLARK ROBINSON.

The entire county was saddened early Monday morning when it was learned that Mr. J. Clark Robinson of the North Lancaster community had passed away during the night. He had been in ill health for the past several months, yet his death came as a blow to his many friends throughout this section of the State.

J. Clark Robinson was born in this community June 29, 1875, being forty-one years and seventeen days old at the time of his death. He was married to Miss Eula Cousar January 12, 1898. He is survived by his wife and six children, five boys one girl, viz: Lathan, Richard, James Clark, Jr., David, Bartow Craig and Margaret; his father, S. D. Robinson, and three brothers: D. L. R. Mack and E. L. Robinson and two sisters, Mrs. J. Boyd Craig and Mrs. Allen Adams.

Funeral services were held at the home at 2:30 o'clock Monday afternoon by his pastor, Rev. W. S. Patterson, and interment was at Shiloh. The pall bearers were: W. P. Robinson, A. B. Robinson, R. C. Millen, C. G. Cochran, Jno. Adams and J. Boyd Craig.

A large number of people from all parts of the county attended. The funeral procession from the home to the church reached nearly a mile in length.

He was a life long member of the Shiloh Associate Reformed Presbyterian church in which he most efficiently served as deacon for many years. He was a trustee of the North Lancaster school and always took great interest in educational matters. He was a most progressive farmer, always taking a great interest in the agricultural improvement of the county. His "Oak Ridge Farm" was one of the finest Durac Jersey hog farms to be found anywhere.

J. Clark Robinson was a substantial citizen of whom any community should feel proud; a devoted husband; a kind and loving father; a sympathizing neighbor and a devoted Christian gentleman. He always so lived that his word was accepted as good. He never knew to practice a "mean or crooked" act towards any man, and as a result his friends were many. Truly, it can be said of him that he was "A MAN."

NOTES FROM THE MILL VILLAGE.

Mr. Butler Deese, who has been very ill with typhoid fever, is some better.

Master John Knight, who has been very sick, is much better now.

Miss Hennie Sanders, who has been sick for some time, is improving.

Mr. Ed Griffin visited relatives in Pageland this week.

Mr. W. B. Adams was seriously ill Sunday morning.

Rev. Wylie Catoe will preach to the members of the Woodmen at the Second Baptist church next Sunday morning at 11 o'clock.

Miss Agnes Flynn has been sick the past week.

Mr. R. S. Snipes is still in bad health.

Mrs. Will Barton has been very sick the past week.

Mrs. Dock Barton is visiting relatives in the county.

MARINE CORPS DO  
EFFECTIVE WORK

Washington, July 11.—Living up to its reputation as the greatest single factor for peace in America, the United States Marine Corps, with the loss of a few men killed and wounded, has quietly and effectively quelled the latest revolt in Santo Domingo, and without time lost in undue parley has forced the rebel chieftains to lay down their arms and return to peaceful pursuits, re-Christi.

United States Marines now control the entire island on which Haiti and Santo Domingo are situated, and that control was gained without serious fighting or great loss of life it is claimed, because of the thorough preparedness of the marines for the business, at hand and their knowledge of the people and their ways.

To our friends in the country bring your suit or skirt in. We really clean and press your clothes. Satisfaction guaranteed. Sanitary Barber Shop.

## VAN WYCK NEWS DURING PAST WEEK

**STORM AND HEAVY RAIN**

**To Close Stores at 6:30 Dur-  
ing Week and 10 O'clock  
Saturday Nights.**

Our community was visited last Sunday by a heavy rain and strong wind which did much damage.

The northeastern part of our little town was visited last Sunday night about 9:30 by a heavy rainfall and also a cyclone, the latter doing lots of damage to the crops and also to the homes of the good farmers.

There was one of the very best farmers wives who was so badly frightened until she talked of going out and staying in the potato house until the storm was over.

Mr. W. N. Ashe will soon be ready to open his large kiln of bricks and men if you want to buy good brick, Mr. Ashe is the man to buy from. His smoke stack to his plant was blown down Sunday and on account of this and the fact that his clay pit is full of water from the high water, he has not been able to run any this week but he will soon have everything in readiness to go back to making the good brick again. If you want to buy brick from him, write or call him at his boarding place.

The business men of our town have decided to close their stores through the week at 6:30 and on Saturday nights at 10 o'clock sharp. We all are glad to see them try to get out of the store soon through the week so they can get out into the social part of life and we are more than glad to see them close on Saturday night at 10 o'clock so they can get up on Sunday morning and be on time at church.

The members of the Van Wyck Demonstration club were very much disappointed Wednesday afternoon when they found that Miss Creighton was not present at the meeting but we are all in hopes that she will be with us at our next meeting. As Miss Creighton was not there, Mrs. J. M. Yoder, the president of our Fair Association, presided over the meeting and the Secretary, Miss Ethel Vaughan, read the program for our Fair so that everyone in the community will know what they are expected to do. We must all get busy at once.

Mr. J. A. Hyatt left for Lancaster Monday afternoon to finish up his work with the Farmers' Bank & Trust Company's new building.

W. N. Ashe made a business trip to Rock Hill Thursday.

Mr. R. C. Yoder made a business trip to Charlotte Friday.

Mrs. R. E. Sharp and little daughter, Nancy, of Cokesburg, spent the past week with her sister, Mrs. J. E. Nesbit.

Mrs. C. S. Massey of Waxhaw spent Monday with Mrs. R. H. Massey.

The many friends of our postmaster are glad to say that he is still improving from his operation.

Misses Gertrude Oliver of Greysville, who is attending the summer school at Winthrop College, spent Monday with Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Massey.

Mr. Stephen Sowell of Kershaw is spending a while with his friends here.

Rev. J. V. Davis is attending the District Conference in Lancaster.

Master Otis Wilson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Tom Wilson, met with a very painful accident Tuesday afternoon by cutting his foot with an axe. Dr. Eyselle was called at once to dress the wound and the child is now doing very nicely.

Master Julius Yoder entertained a few of his friends at a birthday dinner on Monday.

Miss Eva Massey went to Rock Hill Tuesday where she had some dental work done.

Mrs. Porter Hollis of Rock Hill spent a few days the past week with her sister, Mrs. J. E. Nesbit.

Mr. John Crenshaw, Mrs. J. A. Hyatt and daughter, Miss Annie, and Master Ki Ki Yoder motored to Lancaster Thursday to attend the District Conference.

Mrs. C. R. Yoder and children left for Hortense, Ga., Friday afternoon where she was called to the bedside of her father, who is not expected to live.